

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 02706 160105Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PA-01 CIAE-00 INSE-00
/030 W

-----088990 162049Z /63

R 150900Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 525
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 2706

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, SN
SUBJ: ARRIVAL OF REFUGEE BOAT IN SINGAPORE

1. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS SOURCES, SMALL BOAT CARRYING 131 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES SAILED IN TO PULAU UBIN (SMALL SINGAPORE-OWNED ISLAND IN JOHORE STRAIT BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA) ON JUNE 13. BOAT HAD REPORTEDLY LANDED IN MALAYSIA AND TAKEN OFF AGAIN FOR UNKNOWN REASONS BEFORE REACHING SINGAPORE. INITIAL PRESS ACCOUNTS SAID THAT REFUGEES HAD SET FIRE TO THEIR BOAT ON ARRIVAL PULAU UBIN TO PREVENT THEIR BEING ORDERED BACK TO SEA IN ACCORDANCE WITH SINGAPORE POLICY. LATER STORIES QUOTE REFUGEES AS CLAIMING THAT BOAT CAUGHT FIRE ACCIDENTALLY WHILE THEY WERE COOKING.

2. REFUGEES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO SINGAPORE MAINLAND FROM PULAU UBIN AND ARE BEING HELD HERE WHILE GOS
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PONDERS WHAT TO DO WITH THEM. PRESS REPORTS SAY THAT REFUGEES PROBABLY WILL BE PLACED UNDER CARE OF UNHCR IN SINGAPORE WHILE ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE FOR OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO ACCEPT THEM.

3. WE HAVE NOT MADE ANY INQUIRIES OF SINGAPOREANS OR UNHCR REGARDING THIS CASE. ONE OR THE OTHER WILL

UNDOUBTEDLY BE APPROACHING US SHORTLY TO ASK IF WE
WILL TAKE THE REFUGEES. SINCE WE ARE ALREADY COM-
MITTED TO TAKE MOST OF THOSE REFUGEES NOW IN SINGAPORE
AWAITING RESETTLEMENT, BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE SOMEWHAT
HESITANT TO STEP FORWARD IN THIS CASE IN ORDER TO
ENCOURAGE GOS/UNHCR TO SEEK OUT OTHER GOVERNMENTS
WILLING TO ACCEPT THEM. REFUGEES ARE IN NO IMMEDIATE
DANGER OF BEING SENT BACK TO SEA AGAIN.

4. THIS RAISES TOTAL REFUGEE POPULATION IN SINGAPORE
CLOSE TO 600.
INGRAHAM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SINGAP02706
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780252-0832
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780655/aaaabvoo.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 128b6088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2337702
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARRIVAL OF REFUGEE BOAT IN SINGAPORE
TAGS: SREF, SN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/128b6088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014